

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 SAM-01 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

INT-08 FEA-02 AID-20 DRC-01 /172 W

----- 071188

P 091030Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7638

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 12085

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, VS, CB, SN, ENRG

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE-CAMBODIAN OIL DISPUTE

REF: SAIGON 11713

1. RE PARA 3, REFTTEL, WE WERE UNAWARE OF ANY STORY EMANATING FROM PHNOM PENH THAT COULD FIT THAT DESCRIPTION. A PHONE CALL BETWEEN PAOS REVEALED FROM SAIGON THAT UPI PHNOM PENH HAD FILED A STORY ATTRIBUTING STATEMENTS THAT THE U.S. HAD INTERVENED WITH BOTH SIDES, HERE AND IN SAIGON, TO AN UNIDENTIFIED "AMERICAN OFFICIAL."

2. THIS EMBASSY HAS HAD A GREAT DEAL OF TROUBLE IN THE PAST WITH THE IRRESPONSIBLE REPORTING OF THE UPI OFFICE IN PHNOM PENH, WHICH IS QUITE CAPABLE OF FABRICATING QUOTES OUT OF THIN AIR. WE HAVE REPORTED THIS PROBLEM TO THE DEPARTMENT (PHNOM PENH 9245 NOTAL). LET IT BE STATED THAT TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE NO EMBASSY OFFICER HAS HAD ANY CONTACT WHATEVER WITH THE UPI OFFICE FOR SOME CONFIDENTIAL

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WEEKS. NOR WOULD ANY OFFICER HERE MAKE SUCH A STATE-

MENT WHICH, TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, IS FACTUALLY
INCORRECT.

3. IT MIGHT BE NOTED THAT KHMER LANGUAGE DAILY
AREYTHOR PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE ON SEPTEMBER 9 SAYING
THAT "ACCORDING TO A DIPLOMATIC SOURCE, THE UNITED
STATES IS ACCORDING ALL ITS ATTENTION TO THE AFFAIR
AND HAS EVEN SAID TO SOUTH VIETNAM THAT IT SHOULD NOT
CONTINUE TO ACT THIS WAY." WE DISCLAIM EQUALLY ANY
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PIECE OF WISHFUL THINKING.

4. WE AGREE WITH EMBASSY SAIGON THAT STORIES SUCH AS
THE ONE FILED BY UPI ARE NOT HELPFUL.
KEELEY

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NNN

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